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NBC

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PROGRAM TITLE

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

(11:30-12:00 PM) (APRIL 3, 1957) (12:00 PM) DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers"

MUSIC: "RANGERS' SONG"

ANNOUNCER: From the very beginning of the forest conservation movement in this country, reforestation, to restore denuded lands to productivity, has been an important activity. In the U. S. Forest Service, tree planting operations have been carried on almost from the time the National Forests were created. Most of the present planting is done on lands that were cut so bare of trees, or burned so badly, so far before they had been acquired for National Forest purposes that a natural crop of trees could not be expected within any reasonable time. Within the past four years a great expansion in reforestation has come about through the creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Total plantings by the CCC on all lands have aggregated over one billion trees -- And, speaking of tree planting, we'll have an announcement at the end of this program that a lot of you will be interested in --

And now let's return to the Pine Cone National Forest, and pick up our friend Ranger Jim Roberts. Jim had just returned from the ranger station, -- I hear him calling --

(CALLING) Jim! (LOUD) Jim! (LOUDER) Oh, Jim!

(OFF) What is it, Sam?

BESS: Telephone, Jim.

JIM: (OFF) What d'you say?

BESS: You're wanted on the telephone.

JIM: (COMING UP) Who's calling?

BESS: It's long distance. Some newspaper man. I thought it might be important.

JIM: Thanks, Bess. By George, this is the third time I tried to get started this morning and got called back to the office (ANSWERING PHONE) Hello . . . Yes. This is Ranger Robbins . . . Oh, hello, Ralph. . . you want to know about the tree planting contest? . . . I see . . . well, it's scheduled for one o'clock at Shade Gap. . . Yes, (SPILLS) S-h-a-d-e. . that's right. There'll be six crews entered, one from each of the CCC camps in the Pine Cone National Forest. . . Each crew was selected from the best tree planters in each camp. The competition is pretty keen. Sure, I will. But listen, Ralph, why don't you run out to the Gap and see it for yourself? . . . Try to come back. It'll make a great newspaper story . . . I'll meet you there at noon . . . Right-o. So long. (HANGS UP)

BESS: The tree planting contest seems to be getting a lot of attention, Jim.

JIM: I'll say it is. I got to get going now. If anyone calls give them all the information they want. You know what to tell 'em Bess.

9288. All right, Jim.

JIM. And, Boss, if Jerry calls tell him I'm on my way. He's probably beginning to wonder where I am.

9289. All right, Jim. Good-bye.

INTERVAL (MUSIC)

SOUND: (FADE IN "CROWD")

SUPERINTENDENT: Attention, men. . . Quiet. You all know what we're kept for. To hold our fourth annual tree planting contest. Now, Ranger Jim Robbins is going to outline the rules, and tell us how the contest is going to be conducted. . . Ranger Robbins.

JIM. Boys, it looks like our annual tree planting contests are getting kinda popular. We have some visitors with us today that I want you to know. This gentleman, here on my left, is Walter Baker, president of the Potter County Sportsmen's Association. On my right here is Ralph Davis, reporter on the Willow Glen Dispatch. And the man over there, with a new Forest Service uniform on is J. A. Fitzwater, one of the tree planting experts from the Washington, D. C., office of the Forest Service. He's out here making an inspection of some of our reforestation projects, so we brought him along today to show him how we do it in the Pine Cone National Forest. And I guess you all know Ranger Quick.

SOUND: (APPLAUSE)

JIM: Now fellows, listen carefully to the rules of the contest, because we're going to score a little different this time. There's six crews of ten men each from camps 21, 31, 36, 43, 83, and 104. You remember that camp 36 won the 1934 and 1935 meets. Camp 83 won last year. That was the time (CHUCKLES) when Johnny Baxter got so excited at the finish he planted two trees upside down.

SOUND: (OFF, LAUGHTER)

JIM: These are the rules. We're going to plant up that ten acre burn across the road. You men will line up on the road by crews. Each crew leader will be given 500 pine transplants. At the sound of the whistle you start planting, using mattocks to dig the holes. At the end of one hour the whistle will blow again, and you stop planting. Get that?

VOICES: Sure . . . We get it. . . Okay, Ranger.

JIM: A perfect score would be 500, one point for each tree. For every tree dropped or lost and not planted, there will be a penalty of ten points. For each tree of the original 500 not planted at the end of the hour, there will be a penalty of ten points. For each tree improperly planted, another ten points off. And by improper, we mean planted with the roots bunched up, planted too deep or too shallow, or not erect. We'll find out whether they're planted right because the judges will dig some of them up whenever they need to, to check on 'em. The trees are to be spaced seven feet apart in the rows and the rows will be seven feet apart. A crooked line will be penalized 10 points, and careless spacing in the line will be penalized 10 points. Is that clear?

VOICES: Yeah. . . . we understand. . . . Okay, that's clear.

JIM: All right. The judges will be Mr. Fitzwater, Ranger Gales, and myself. Mr. Davis will keep scores. And at the finish of the competition a prize, donated by the Potter County Sportsmen's Association, will be awarded to the winning crew. That's all. Those stakes with the camp numbers mark where each crew is to start. Line up.

SOUND: (VOICES OF MEN)

VOICE: Now, hold my coat.

VOICE: Hey, Tony, over here. Here's where we start.

VOICE: (S.V.) Lookit, Sam. You loose any more trees like you did last time, you know what you're gonna get.

VOICE: Get set, fellers, he's gonna blow the whistle.

JIM: (LOUD) Now, remember, boys. It's not all speed that counts. It's good workmanship. Let 'er go, Jerry.

JERRY: Okay, Jim.

SOUND: (WHISTLE) . . . (PICKS STRIKING IN SOIL AND STONES: AROUND EFFECT)

JERRY: They're off, Jim.

JIM: Yep, they're off, Jerry. Where's Fitz? Oh, there you are. Here's a spade. You take the left hand section. Jerry will take the center, and I'll take the right. We'll follow 'em up and see how they're planted.

JERRY: Great guys, Jim. Look at that crew from camp 33 go. They're out to win again this year.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Those diggers sure are making their mattresses fly.

JERRY: Captain Wilbur says those camp 33 boys are mostly off of farms. They've had a good bit of experience before they joined up.

JIM: They're huskies, all right. Say, Jerry, I wonder what's wrong with the crew from camp 40 over there? They've falling behind already.

JERRY: Yeah, that's funny. Oh, I know what it is. They're a new company. Mostly city boys. I guess they haven't had as much planting experience as the others.

JIM: Say, Jerry, isn't their crew leader that young fellow that found Mary and the Potter being the time they got lost in the snow storm last February? What's his name?

JERRY: Petrucelli. Tony Petrucelli. He's a great little fellow. Conscientious, too. I hope they don't get lost too bad.

JIM: So do I, but if they aren't very experienced I reckon it can't be helped.

JERRY: Mr. Fitzwater is lifting some of their trees, but he don't seem to be finding much wrong.

JIM: Nope. -- I suppose we better start searching, too, Jerry.

SOUND: (FADE OUT CROWD EFFECT)

INTERVAL (MUSIC)

SOUND: (FADE IN PICKS STRIKING)

JIM: How much time is left, Jerry? They're all through except Petrucelli's crew from camp 40.

JERRY: Twenty seconds to go, Jim.

JIM: Give the stop signal right on the dot.

JERRY: I'm watching it. (S. V.) Let's see, five seconds more -- all right, time's up!

SOUND: (WHISTLE. PICKS STOP)

JIM: (CALLING) All right, boys. Time's up. Bring in your tools. Jerry, you count how many trees Petrucelli's crew has left.

JERRY: Okay, Jim.

SOUND: (CONVERSATION OF CROWD)

JIM: Got all the crews scored, Ralph?

RALPH: I got everything except the number of trees that the camp 40 crew didn't get planted.

JIM: Jerry's counting 'em for you. Here he comes already. I don't think they had many left.

RALPH: How many, Jerry?

JERRY: Only two, Mr. Davis.

RALPH: Thanks. H-m-m-m- pretty good. Wait 'till I get it is added. Two sixty, three eighty, four ninety, less twenty for the two trees they didn't get planted. That makes four seventy. Jim, the crew from camp 40 wins with a score of 470.

JERRY: Well! Can you beat that? Camp 40 wins. And they're the boys that had the least planting experience of all.

JIM: You never can tell, Jerry. (CALLS) Come over here, Petrucelli. And bring your crew along, too.

VOICE: Which crew won?

VOICE: Looks like camp 40.

VOICE: Naw. They finished last.

VOICE: Yeah, but they got the straightest rows, so' the best spacing.

VOICE: Well, our crew won't win on account of we tried to go too fast.

VOICE: What'd I tell you, Bob? I told you we was goin' too blasted fast.

VOICE: Listen. The ranger's gonna say something.

119. GALT, HOPE : GALT, while the same Superintendent announced the result -

3071. The winner is camp 40 with a score of 170.

3072. (TELLS)

3073. Second place, camp 53, last year's winner, with a score of 150. For 3rd place, camp 53 and camp 10 are tied with scores of 140; 4th place, camp 31 with a score of 100 even. Now for 5th place, camp 104 with a score of 30. Camp 104 has good planting, but they had a little trouble with crooked rows and poor spacing. Probably worked too fast.

3074. (END OF CONVERSATION)

3075. The same announcement will now present the prize. Stand up, Petrucelli.

3076. Petrucelli: On behalf of the Potter County Sportsmen's Association, I take pleasure in awarding to you and your crew this silver cup. You --

3077. VOICE: Just a moment, please. I want to get a photograph for the Dispatch of you handing him the cup. Hold it. Over. 2. 1. It.

3078. Now, Petrucelli, and your planting crew -- in 500, all you ECC men assembled here -- exemplify a high type of good American manhood. I want to pay tribute to the fine conservation work you young men are doing. I know it is going to have a lasting and valuable effect upon our soil, our forests, and our wildlife.

3079. (APPLAUSE)

SHUT.: And listen -- Mr. Baker has also asked me to announce that the winning crew is to be special guests of the Potter County Sportmen's Association banquet in Willow Glen tomorrow night -- and there'll be plenty of ice cream!

(LOUD CHEERS)

VOICES: Speech! Speech! Make us a speech, Tony.

PETERUC: I can't a-make speech.

VOICES: Go ahead, Tony, etc.

TONY: Well -- a Meester Bake! -- Ranger Jeem. Ladies and gentlemen --

VOICES: (LAUGHTER) Who're the ladies? There ain't no ladies here, Tony.

TONY: Well-a da boys an' we thank-a you very much for da nice cup, Meester Bake!. We're-a ver' modest -- what you call eet -- "modest"! We no think-a we win first time, but alla same we try-a like-a everything. So-o, now we win, an' camp 40 get da cup, an' ees-a swell.

SOUND: (LAUGHTER AND APPLAUSE)

JIM: Tony, where did you come from? Where's your home?

TONY: Chicago, Meester Jeem. I was-a born there.

JIM: Are all the rest of your crew from Chicago, too?

TONY: Yes, sir, Meester Jeem. We're-a all come from Hallstead Street.

JIM: Well, Tony, tell me something. How is it that you boys from the city, that never planted trees 'til you came to the CCC camp -- how come you could go out and win against those other fellows who've been used to that kind of work all their lives?

TOM: One-a his way, mister? No. On my way, they got his way
 strong. But on my way, they got not so much. So we
 think now, when we got-a see -- what you will get --
 science. So we get on some one-a the CCC camp now, and
 as we study like everything else-a-a plant does too.
 I see. You put the old brain to work, eh? So on, Tony.
 TOM: So on, we say to Oak May, the camp forester. "Now is the best
 way to go on plant new trees." He shows us and he says, "I know
 very very careful. I know so." So we study how and read
 the book, and he shows us, and by and by we get pretty good. Now
 So on today we say, "Let these other crew plant the trees fast.
 We take set slow and easy-like, and don't nobody make no
 mistake." And we're gonna plant every tree just so. So on
 we finish last, but, by golly, we win the prize because we
 do the best job.
 JIM: Tony, I'm plumb proud of you. If the CCC can teach our boys
 like you, I reckon it'll get along all right. And I reckon
 Uncle Sam's National Forester will get along all right, too.

ANNOUNCER: Folks, this year marks the sesquicentennial of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. The American Tree Association says, "Plan to observe this important anniversary by planting trees -- trees in honor of the Constitution, trees which will add to the wealth and beauty of this Nation for which the Constitution stands. Through the courtesy of the American Tree Association, Free and Home listeners can get a copy of their booklet, published this year to mark the 150th anniversary of the Constitution, and containing a copy of the famous document, together with information on tree planting. Write to the American Tree Association, 1214 - 16th Street, Washington, D. C., or to the station to which you are listening, and ask for a copy of the booklet, "The Constitution of the United States." Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers is presented each Friday at 10:15 hour by the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

vc 2:55 pm
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